



MINISTRY OF
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora

funding news

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Welcome to the tenth edition of Funding News – the newsletter for community organisations funded by the Ministry of Social Development.

In this issue we:

- introduce a new approach to funding community social services organisations
- tell you the about the outcomes of Round One of the Community Response Fund
- give some tips about how to apply for Round Two of the Community Response Fund and where to go for assistance
- introduce Fresh Start and Break-Away – the Government’s new programmes for young people
- look at how the standard terms and conditions of our contracts have been simplified.

Applications for the second round of the Community Response Fund will close on the **25th of September 2009 at 5pm.**

Check www.familyservices.govt.nz for information about where to go for help completing the application. This includes dates of regional workshops and tips for making applications.

CONTRACTING OVERHAUL FOR SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR

The Government is radically reshaping how it contracts services to social sector groups, says the Minister for Social Development and Employment Paula Bennett.

Beginning with a trial, the new High Trust Model will create a new and simpler way of funding and contracting.

“I believe these providers will be able to do more with the money we give them if we simply let them get on with the great work they do in supporting Kiwi families,” Paula Bennett says.

“I’ve heard horror stories about providers with multiple contracts which have had to go through a ridiculous number of audits each year – all while continuing to deliver a trusted service. In many cases they are burdened with days and days of admin



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TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO TAIOHI
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for contracts with just one agency – imagine how hard it is for those groups trying to work with multiple agencies. It’s a wonder they have any time to help families!

“These providers are best placed to know what works in their communities, so I want to give them the freedom to concentrate on that. Government and the sector are working toward the same goal – better outcomes for families – and we need to look at how we work smarter together to do that.

“I’ve always said to the sector that we would back what works. Under this new contracting model – which I believe could be extended well beyond this trial – we will combine multiple contracts into a single, simple contract.

“We will also simplify their reporting requirements, so it’s more effective and results-based.

“I see this as a major win for the sector and for the New Zealand taxpayer. By changing how we contract services, we’re giving providers greater flexibility to support Kiwi families while at the same time delivering value for money for the taxpayer,” Paula Bennett says.

The Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, Tariana Turia, has welcomed efforts to cut down unnecessary bureaucracy.

“This gives me confidence that other government agencies can have a more integrated approach whereby the real focus is on outcomes for families and communities.”

The new High Trust Model will initially be trialled with two providers; Waipuna Youth and Community Trust in Christchurch and Ngati Awa Social Services in Whakatane. The Ministry aims to have 20 providers involved by mid-2010.

CRITICAL SOCIAL SERVICES GET \$8.8 M FUNDING BOOST

Nearly \$9 million dollars has been given to critical social services groups under pressure from the current economic environment, says the Minister for Social Development and Employment Paula Bennett.

164 critical social services groups have been granted funding after the first round of the Community Response Fund.

The new Fund was set up in May to assist those groups providing vital social services during the recession, which are under severe financial strain or experiencing increased demand. Up to \$104 million is being made available over two years.

Main reasons cited by groups applying to the Fund were a reduction in income from investments or philanthropic organisations and increased demand for their services from families under pressure.

“We know many Kiwi families are under stress, and this puts pressure on those critical organisations delivering services for families. This first funding round will start to ease that pressure.”

The average amount granted in this funding round was \$40,995. Four national organisations successfully applied.

Paula Bennett says organisations which missed out in this round are being encouraged to apply again.

“This has always been a highly targeted fund, and we make no apologies for that. We will however, be holding briefings in some regions to help organisations better understand the

criteria they need to meet. We will also be able to let providers know where they can get further assistance with their applications. For more information contact 0800 777 100 or your local regional funding advisor. Providers will also be able to apply online.

“We want to make sure those groups delivering vital services to our most at risk families are getting the support they need and deserve.

“It’s anticipated there’ll be more applications in rounds two and three this financial year, as the effects of the recession are felt by more families,” Paula Bennett says.

Applications for the second round of the Community Response Fund will close on the **25th of September 2009**.

More information, including the list of grants that were awarded in Round One is available at: www.familyservices.govt.nz/our-work/funding-resources/grants-round-one.html

SNAPSHOT OF ROUND ONE

- **293** applications were received valued at **\$16,098,561.00**
- **5** of these applications were from national organisations
- **30%** of applications were from agencies not currently funded by the Ministry to provide critical social services
- **164** of the 293 applications (56%) received a grant in the first round
- Total amount of grants approved Round One is **\$8,799,590**
- Average grant amount approved (excluding national organisations) **\$40,995**
- **64%** of all funding is for increased demand for services

- **32%** of all funding is in response to funding crises
- **2%** of all funding recommended for approval were for innovative responses

Applicants to **Round Two** of the Community Response Fund can now complete their form online at www.familyservices.govt.nz/our-work/funding-resources/community-response/application.html

ROUND TWO APPLICATIONS DUE 25 SEPTEMBER 2009

Community groups feeling the effects of the current economic environment are reminded that applications for Round Two of the Community Response Fund need to be received at the Family and Community Services National Office by **Friday 25 September 2009 at 5pm**.

Marti Eller, General Manager, Family and Community Services said that applying for the Fund has now got even easier with a new online application form that can be filled in electronically.

“The Round Two form has been re-ordered so the questions flow even better and applicants can now fill them in online rather than by hand,” she said.

“The online form will also help speed up processing applications as it enables data to be automatically collected.”

Ms Eller said that groups not able to access it online can still print it out and send it by post.

The Community Response Fund online application can be accessed at:
[www.familyservices.govt.nz/
fundedresources/communityresponse](http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/fundedresources/communityresponse)

Application tips

1. Complete ALL questions in the form.
2. Ensure you provide relevant evidence to back up your application.
3. For financial crisis funding show evidence that funding has been lost – such as letters from philanthropic organisations or bank statements showing reduction in investments.
4. For increased demand for your services show evidence such as waiting lists or increased referrals.
5. Make sure you include a budget detailing proposed expenditure of the additional money.
6. And finally, send in your last two years of audited financial accounts or similar.

Applications received after 25 September will automatically be considered in Round Three of the Fund which opens **28 September 2009**.

Check www.familyservices.govt.nz for information on where to go for help completing the application. This includes dates of regional workshops and tips for making applications.

SIMPLIFIED CONTRACTS WORKING WELL

New contracts with simplified terms and conditions came into effect in July 2009 and are working well.

Ros Rice, Executive Officer of the New Zealand Council of Social Services said that social service providers welcomed the improved documents.

“The new contracts are easier to read and understand,” she said.

“We welcome anything that enables us to get on with the job of helping families rather than getting bogged down in paperwork and bureaucracy.”

The simplified contracts have been rewritten in plain language. They have also been standardised across all service units of the Ministry of Social Development, Family and Community Services, Child Youth and Family and the Ministry of Youth Development.

Ms Rice said that members of NZCOSS were involved in the design and testing of the new contracts.

“The final result was a collaborative effort between the Ministry and the sector. This is always the best way to do business together as it draws from the expertise of all parties.”

ALL ABOUT

Fresh Start and Break-Away

ALL ABOUT FRESH START FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS AND THE BREAK-AWAY PACKAGE

Prime Minister John Key announced details on 26 August 2009 about the \$84.544m Fresh Start for Young Offenders and Break-Away Package that provide targeted help for young offenders and young people at risk of poor outcomes.

The initiatives are grouped into two areas:

- **Break-Away** package initiatives will increase and improve the range of school holiday and youth development opportunities for young people whose families may not be able to provide them.
- **Fresh Start** for young offenders initiatives which provides an effective range of opportunities to turn around the lives of young people who have veered off the rails and found themselves in trouble with the police and youth justice system.

ALL ABOUT THE BREAK-AWAY PACKAGE

There are three initiatives funded under the Break-Away Package:

Prime Minister's Youth Programme

Government is investing \$50,000 annually to fund 100 exceptional young people, who have overcome adversity, to attend one of four themed programmes daily for one week at the end of each Christmas School holidays beginning January 2010.

The programme will use iconic Kiwis to help show at-risk young people that there are better paths their lives can take.

The programmes will consist of fun, challenging and developmental activities, as well as opportunities to spend time with high achieving New Zealanders.

Actor Oscar Kightley, ex All Black Norm Hewitt, NZ Rugby, netball guru Raewyn Henry and hip hop artists Prestige, have all offered their time.

“The programme will reward young people who might have been in trouble with police, but have made a real effort to change their behaviour for the better. The aim of the programme is to put these youngsters in touch with inspiring and motivational leaders – and help them get another view on how their life could be,” says Minister Bennett.

The Ministry of Youth Development will contract providers to run each of the four programmes. A tender process will be undertaken in late September with providers selected by November 2009.

More information is available at www.myd.govt.nz

Break-Away School Holiday Programmes

The Minister for Social Development and Employment Paula Bennett says the ‘Break-Away Package for School Holidays’ will capture Kiwi kids for whom options during the holidays are limited.

30,000 young people will get the chance to attend a fun but structured holiday activity programme daily for one week of the school holidays.

This \$3 million programme (\$1.5 million in the first year) provides 3,000 places per week for the 12 weeks of school holiday every year.

This initiative is targeted at those 11–17 year olds who would not normally get access to school holiday programmes.

“Sadly not all children in New Zealand get interesting and meaningful school holiday options. We know research shows taking part in positive activities can help improve engagement at school and give young people an alternative to less desirable behaviours.”

THE BREAK-AWAY HOLIDAY PROGRAMME TENDER PROCESS

Family and Community Services will contract community-based providers to deliver the Break-Away School Holiday Programmes in targeted areas. In the first year the focus will be on areas that are economically and socially disadvantaged, particularly in Auckland.

Providers will be accepted through a standard tendering process.

Key dates for this are:

28 September 2009

Request for Proposals open on GETS website (www.gets.govt.nz)

16 October 2009

Tenders close

Early December 2009

Tenderers advised of the outcome of proposals

11 January 2009

Break-Away School Holiday Programmes commence

More information about Break-Away School Holiday Programmes is available at www.familyservices.govt.nz

Tenders for request for proposals for the school holiday Break-Away programmes will be posted on www.gets.govt.nz
28 September 2009

Break-Away Residential Respite Holiday Camps

These camps will provide 500 places for kids who are being cared for by foster parents, extended whānau and grandparents.

They will be run by Te Puna Whaiora Children’s Health Camps, in the first year with a focus on 5–7 year olds.

More information on the Respite holiday camps is available at www.cyf.govt.nz

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